

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/NZ2004/000069

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ⁷: A61F 2/44 · 2/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

DWPI and keywords: disc and spinal and fluid and similar terms.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	WO 2000/035382 A1 (DIMSO) 22 June 2000 Page 3 line 17 to page 6 line 27	1-3, 6-10 4, 5, 11
X Y	US 6527804 B1 (GAUCHET et al.) 4 March 2003 Column 3 line 22 to column 4 line 5	1-3, 6-10 4, 5, 11
X Y	US 5002576 A (FUHRMANN et al.) 26 March 1991 Column 2 line 52 to column 3 line 2	1-3, 6-10 4, 5, 11
X Y	US 6419704 B1 (FERREE) 16 July 2002 Column 2 line 50 to column 3 line 22 Column 7 lines 29 to 50	1-4, 6-11 5



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C



See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
28 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report
- 7 JUL 2004

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6248106 B1 (FERREE) 19 June 2001 Column 2 lines 14 to 19	4, 11
Y	US 6063121 A (XAVIER et al.) 16 May 2000 Column 4 lines 21 to 43	4, 5, 11
Y	US 4759769 A (HEDMAN et al.) 26 July 1988 Column 5 line 45 to column 6 line 15	4, 5, 11
P,A	US 2003/0204271 A1 (FERREE) 30 October 2003 Paragraphs 14 and 15	

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This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member			
WO	2000/035382	AU	15682/00	CA	2354169
		FR	2787014	US	6582466
US	6527804	AU	15684/00	CA	2354166
		FR	2787016	WO	0035384
US	5002576	EP	0346269	JP	2111358
US	6419704	AU	62476/00	AU	63465/01
		CA	2322350	CA	2377836
		EP	1108548	EP	1292251
		US	6155678	US	6340369
		US	6352557	US	6371990
		US	6432107	US	6454804
		US	6494883	US	6719797
		US	2002128652	US	2002128713
		US	2002133231	US	2002151981
		US	2002156533	US	2002165542
		US	2003026788	US	2003035035
		US	2003074076	US	2003078579
		US	2003195630	US	2003199981
		US	2003233148	US	2004010318
		US	2004024461	US	2004030390
		US	2004030398	US	2004044410
		US	2004093092	US	2004097980
		WO	0189429	WO	03090649
				WO	03094806
US	6248106	US	2001027319	US	2002133155
US	6063121	CA	2300613		
US	4759769	EP	0282161	JP	1308557
US	2003204271	NONE			
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.					
END OF ANNEX					